

# Haverhill WEEKLY NEWS

Thursday, January 1, 2015

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Mavis reminds older residents of bygone age

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## Looking back

Stories which made the headlines in 2014

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**A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS AND ADVERTISERS**

# Church's new mission for town community centre

**A COMMUNITY church has revealed plans to take on the Chalkstone Community Centre.**

The centre, in Strasbourg Square, is currently owned by St Edmundsbury Borough Council but the River of Life Community Church hopes to gain ownership and management of the building.

Currently, the church, which works alongside REACH Community Projects, is carrying out a "community consultation" – with letters and questionnaires sent out to those living nearby.

Paul Turner, senior pastor at the church, said: "We hope to run [the centre] as it is at the moment, increase the hirings of the building and encourage other community-based groups to use it for their activities."

The community centre could also be used for further youth activities, which the church has been looking to provide.

Around 20 responses have been received so far, Mr Turner said, with all of them positive.

**DEBRA FOX**

The consultation forms part of a wider "feasibility study" regarding the asset transfer from the council.

If it goes ahead, it is hoped that the asset transfer to the church will take place before the end of the financial year.

St Edmundsbury Borough Council approached the church as part of a proposal to transfer its community centres to local organisations.

In 2011, the Southgate Community Centre in Bury St Edmunds was handed over to the Southgate Community Partnership.

Cllr Sara Mildmay-White, deputy leader of the borough council and cabinet member for community development, said local communities are "best placed" to run these facilities and "respond to the needs of their neighbourhoods".

"Any change in ownership comes at the conclu-

sion of an in-depth project to ensure that any community centre transfer is sustainable and successful," the councillor said.

She added: "I am pleased that the River of Life Church is working with us to investigate the possible transfer of the Chalkstone Community Centre."

"They are a well established and respected group who have used specialist advice."

A public meeting is taking place at the centre on January 12, 4pm-6pm.

Interested parties are being encouraged to attend.

Mr Turner added: "It's an opportunity for any members of the general public who would like to talk to us about what we're planning to do so, and offer any suggestions."

The deadline for views to be submitted is January 16. To get a copy of a questionnaire, email [admin@rolcc.org.uk](mailto:admin@rolcc.org.uk) or call 01440 712288.

### What do YOU think?

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**THE MAYOR of Haverhill met the stars of Jack and the Beanstalk when the panto came to town.**

**Emmerdale and Coronation Street's Amy Forrester and BBC's Howie Watkins starred in this year's panto at Haverhill Arts Centre.**

Last week, Cllr Roger André,

town mayor, met the cast ahead of a week full of performances.

Cllr André said: "It is a great performance that shows off the talents of our local children as well as the stars."

"It really is a wonderful seasonal story."

It tells a story of Dame Trot's

son Jack who falls in love with the beautiful Jill and sets about clearing Haverhill of scary Giants and Fleshcreep.

The Arts Centre sold more than 3,000 tickets for 16 performances – and bucket collections at the shows raised more than £570 for the mayor's charities.

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## Hopes Bobby could be found in Haverhill area

A NEW appeal has been made by the owner of a dog which has gone missing from St Neots.

Bobby, an 11-year-old cocker spaniel, escaped from his home in Eynesbury at the beginning of December, leaving owner Jan Palmer distraught.

There has been no news of Bobby despite pet firm

Pets Corner, which has a branch in St Neots, putting up a £5,000 reward in vouchers for information leading to his safe return.

Jan's daughter Jodie is still living in Haverhill – and it is hoped the dog may be found in the area.

Call Jan on 07714 646922 or 07999 473630 or go to Find Bobby the Cocker Spaniel on Facebook.

## Work to start on new floor at leisure centre

THE sports hall floor at Haverhill Leisure Centre is going to be replaced.

Permission for the work, which will begin in February, was granted by St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

The hall is currently partially open to allow classes and gymnastics to take place – but the leisure centre is looking for alternative

venues for bookings which need the whole floor space.

Simon Ginders-Coxhall, operations director, said work will take around three weeks.

He added: "We apologise to those customers affected during this short time but we hope people will understand the need for us to ensure this work is carried out."



**FESTIVE CHEER:** Staff visit the children's ward at Addenbrooke's Hospital.

## Staff spread Christmas cheer at children's ward

SANTA'S helpers brought some festive joy to children spending the season in hospital.

Following a successful gift appeal, staff from Haverhill Leisure Centre handed out 60 gifts to little ones at Addenbrooke's Hospital Children's Ward.

The centre's Christmas helpers also visited St Nicholas Hospice Care to hand out presents.

James Purkiss, centre manager, thanked the public for their support.

The appeal ran last month.

He said: "We were utterly thrilled at the number of presents donated. There is no stopping the generosity of people in Haverhill. By adding an extra gift to their shopping list they have helped us put a smile on faces of children having a really tough time."

"We cannot thank people enough for their support and generosity."

The centre, on Ehringshausen Way, held a Giving Tree appeal for two weeks in December.

Customers were encouraged to take tags from the tree in reception and return to the centre with a present.

A similar appeal was also held at the leisure centre in Newmarket.

# Tesco plan and new homes on agenda

**TWO controversial planning applications for Haverhill are due to be debated next week.**

Councillors on St Edmundsbury Borough Council's Development Control Committee will discuss The Bell pub and Tesco store at their first meeting of the year.

Despite objections from town councillors and residents, planning officers have recommended that an application to build 11 new homes and a retail unit in place of the pub is granted.

Eight car parking spaces and 15 covered cycle spaces have also been proposed for the High Street site.

Concerns about access have been raised, as the High Street is restricted

**DEBRA FOX**

between 10am and 4pm.

Councillors will also discuss an application from Tesco, on Haverhill's Cangle Road.

The store wants to start deliveries at 5am on a daily basis for a period of 12 months.

At a committee meeting in December, councillors argued against the proposal and cited complaints from residents living nearby.

The meeting also heard that conditions drawn up prior to the store's construction stated that deliveries could start at 7am between Monday and Saturday, and 8am on Sunday.

This was to maintain "quality of life" for local people.

At the last meeting, councillors ruled they were "minded to refuse" the application.

A proposal to build 40 new homes in Kedington has also been recommended for approval.

Planning officers were asked in December to investigate all pedestrian safety features which could be provided at the site, and the application was deferred.

These will be discussed at the meeting on January 8 at West Suffolk House. Visit [westsuffolk.gov.uk](http://westsuffolk.gov.uk)



**Comment on this story:**  
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**NEW CHAPTER:** David Maguire, acting head teacher, shows off the new uniforms, far left. The logo, right, as voted for by the public, is being sewn onto one of the new jumpers, above right.



## Coupals Primary School makes academy change

A PRIMARY school will officially become an academy today.

Coupals Primary School, now Primary Academy, gains its new status after joining the Samuel Ward Academy Trust.

The primary school, which was graded as inadequate in its last inspection by Ofsted last year, will welcome pupils back on January 6 –

complete with a new school uniform to signify the change.

It boasts a new logo, which was voted on by parents, showing the history of the school, which is built on the old Coupals Farm site.

David Maguire, acting headteacher, said: "We are very pleased with our new logo.

"It is a modern logo for a modern

school without losing sight of the history of our school and its location."

The uniform, from Anglia Gifts and Promotions, was handed out to children at the end of term in December ready for next week's new start.

Each child received a new jumper or cardigan.

As previously reported, the primary revealed its plan for change in September – with Mr Maguire praising the academy, rated "outstanding" by Ofsted for its work with other schools.

Westfield Primary Academy and Churchill Special Free School are already part of the partnership, which is headed by Howard Lay, executive principal.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Be aware of metal thefts

RESIDENTS have been asked to be on their guard over the festive period.

Suffolk police are calling on local people to be alert to metal thefts from churches in their village or town.

Any signs of suspicious activity should be reported to the police.

There have not been any reported incidents in Suffolk so far, but there has been a rise in offences in neighbouring counties.

All intelligence is shared on a regional and national level.

### Couple's inquest next week

AN INQUEST into the deaths of a Haverhill couple will be held next week.

Melanie and Peter Saunders died on August 9 after a single vehicle collision on the A1307 at Bartlow.

The couple, who were 52 and 55, lived on Cleves Road, Haverhill.

The inquest will be held on January 8 at 10.30am. It will take place at Lawrence Court, Huntingdon.

### Christmas Eve fire in town

FIRE crews were sent to a garage which caught fire in Haverhill on Christmas Eve.

Firefighters from Haverhill and Clare attended the blaze on Sturmer Road just after 5.30am on Wednesday.

The fire, which was in a domestic garage, was brought under control at around 6.30am using one hose reel jet.

Suffolk Fire and Rescue said the blaze is being treated as "suspicious."

Suffolk police have been informed about the incident.

## Arts centre set to entertain you

THEATRE-goers, music lovers and film fanatics can brace themselves for a jam-packed 2015.

Haverhill Arts Centre is preparing for its new season and is getting ready to welcome a whole host of performances to mark the new year.

Forming the programme between now and April, are broadcasts, family shows and pop music performances.

Nick Keeble, arts and leisure manager for the centre, has praised the forthcoming schedule – and earmarked some favourites of his own.

He said: "My personal highlight is Toyah, Up Close and Personal, but I'm also looking forward to Hank Wangford and the Lost Cowboys and folk legend Maddy Prior."

In 2015, the arts centre will also welcome more broad-

DEBRA FOX

casts from the National Theatre, the Royal Shakespeare Company, the Bolshoi Ballet and the English National Opera, Mr Keeble added.

"They've proved ever so popular with our audiences over the past year, and we have some real crowd pleasers with Treasure Island and Behind the Beautifuls Forever," he said.

Alongside the big names, a number of local groups and organisations will hold their own performances.

Over the next few months you can catch Haverhill Silver Band, Haverhill Art Group and Monkey Nuts Comedy Club.

At the end of this month, the town's next pantomime will begin with Centre Stage's production of Peter Pan.

Kicking off on January 24, there will be seven performances before the show closes on January 31.

Sounds from the 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s will fill the arts centre throughout the season, including music from Purple Zeppelin, Limehouse Lizzy and Roy Orbison.

Fans can also enjoy tributes to Katy Perry, Rihanna and Beyonce – as well as a night dedicated to funk, soul and disco which is scheduled to run until 1.30am.

For more information, listings and prices visit haverhillartscentre.co.uk, search Haverhill Arts Centre on Facebook or call the box office on 01440 714140.

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## High Street could get new charity shop

A FORMER butchers shop could turn into a charity shop in the new year.

Bosses at Wood Green, The Animals Charity, are in talks about taking over a vacant shop in Haverhill High Street.

A spokeswoman for the char-

ity has confirmed that the shop in their sights is near to the British Heart Foundation branch – and "negotiations" are under way.

It used to be the Cherry Tree Butchers store.

She said: "We are still wait-

ing on the results of various surveys to come through before negotiations are completed, and we expect to be able to announce more information in the New Year."

The opening is expected to be announced early this year.



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# Get fit and Glow for 2015

DEBRA FOX

**A FITNESS coach is calling on Haverhill to get fit for the New Year with a new programme.**

Karen Perkins, who has taught classes in the town for almost two decades, has taken on Glow, a fitness and healthy eating class.

Previously a representative of the Rosemary Conley classes, Karen covers Suffolk and North Essex with eight classes each week.

She said: "The new and vibrant classes are suitable for everyone, that is the lovely thing about the Glow classes."

"They are suitable for any age, any fitness level, a little or a lot of weight to lose. Everyone is welcome, we are one big fitness family who enjoy food, but want to get slimmer and feel good."

The new programme offers a range of exercises to suit each personality, from zumba, to aerobics, and creates a "contemporary" diet plan along with the Food Doctor.

The Haverhill class takes place on Wednesdays at Castle Manor Academy from 6pm until 7.30pm and 7.30pm until 8.45pm.

For more information, contact Karen on 01787 238233 or 07976124095.

You can also email her on karen.perkins@glow-fit.co.uk and visit glow-fit.co.uk.

**TIME TO GLOW:**  
Karen Perkins.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Appeal for group leaders

A COMMUNITY transport group providing links across Suffolk is searching for two new board members.

The Voluntary Network, which operates services in Haverhill, Newmarket and across Forest Heath, is in need of two trustees to help with leadership.

Services managed by the organisation include dial-a-ride, a community car scheme and wheelchair accessible transport.

Caroline Robinson, manager, said: "We are interested to hear from anyone who feels they have a skills set which could be beneficial to the organisation, but most importantly they must have a passion for supporting the local community and helping to improve the lives of others."

Call 01638 608022 if you want to find out more.

### Helping hand this winter

VULNERABLE people and families are set to be protected from the cold over the winter months thanks to a scheme by the council.

Warm Homes Healthy People has been launched to make it cheaper for vulnerable people to stay warm over the colder months.

The project means eligible residents in Suffolk will be able to be loaned electric heaters, have independent surveyors come to discuss energy efficiency improvements, provided access to grants and interest free loans to pay for insulation, and to have fuel payments made to their heating suppliers.

Cllr Alan Murray, cabinet member for health and social care, said: "There are around 350 excess deaths each winter in Suffolk and many could be prevented by keeping homes sufficiently insulated and warm."

"The Warm Homes Healthy People project is an excellent example of how we can work together in Suffolk to support vulnerable people."



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FAREWELL: Darren Woodward pictured outside the school with some of his pupils.

## Headteacher moves on to a new role for the new year

A HEADTEACHER is taking on a new role for 2015.

Darren Woodward, head at Kedington Primary Academy, will start the new year as principal of primary schools at the Samuel Ward Academy Trust.

Mr Woodward, who started at Kedington in 2006, celebrated his last day at the school on December 19.

The day before, the headteacher enjoyed a special assembly and

was visited by some guests.

Children performed and recorded a playscript, with a Lord of the Rings/The Hobbit theme, as a special treat for their teacher.

Students from Samuel Ward Academy, who are currently aged 13 or 14, also visited Mr Woodward during his last week at school.

The pupils formed part of the teacher's first reception class

when he started work at the village's school, and were invited by Jayne Milner, teaching assistant.

Mr Woodward has been supervising the trust's primaries for the last year, a spokeswoman for Kedington Primary School said, but as more schools join, it was decided that a full time position would be necessary.

He will start his new role on January 5.

## Rules to change after inmate's death in prison

**RULES governing how inmates are monitored will change at Highpoint Prison following a prisoner's death.**

An inquest into the death of Joseph Bone, who died on August 11, heard that management at the Stradishall prison have issued new orders that a response must be received from each inmate during roll call.

Mr Bone, who was 44, was found dead in his cell.

Officers thought he was having a weekend lie in.

The inmate, who suffered from heart problems, diabetes and mental health issues, was found by another prisoner who went to see why he had not collected his lunch.

Dr Peter Dean, Suffolk coroner, told the inquest at Bury St Edmunds that the new rules would not have prevented

### COURT REPORTER

ed Mr Bone's death, but could help other prisoners in the future.

Mr Bone was serving a 14 month sentence, and died from a heart attack exacerbated by his diabetes.

All three main arteries were "severely" blocked, with one of them 95 per cent blocked.

Richard Lombardo, head of operations at Highpoint Prison, told the hearing that now, if no response is obtained, staff were to immediately call for an ambulance instead of summoning the prison's medics.

He added: "It could be life saving."

Another change in procedure since Mr Bone's death has been to assess all inmates

on arrival at the prison and ensure that details of long-term conditions were entered on a register.

Appropriate professionals will also see them regularly, Ashley Maund, healthcare manager, said.

A clinical review carried out by Amanda Mutter ruled that the medical care offered to Mr Bone following his arrival at Highpoint had been inadequate.

But it was "impossible" to determine if any changes would have prevented his death, she said.

The inquest, held on December 19, was also told that Mr Bone had sometimes not wanted to comply with the treatment offered to him.

Dr Dean recorded a conclusion of death by natural causes.

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# Letters

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## Special thanks

SPECIAL thanks to the following companies for donating gifts to the annual Stepping Stones raffle: Tesco, Blooming Lovely, Arts Centre, Cineworld, Days Inn, Flying Shuttle, Sainsbury's C&B Beautiful, STP, Glasswells, Hanningtons, MJ Pipes, Hughes, Iceland, Zeist, Lloyds Pharmacy, Costa Coffee, Hendersons, Boots, Quick Service Shoe Repairs, Gentlemen's Barber Shop, The Gallery, Sports Centre, Motor Shop, Sonias, Leanne Ledain and Lucie Christie.

And thanks also to all the parents, friends and families who sold and purchased raffle tickets.

The raffle raised £280 and will help fund the pantomime outing on January 31 to see Peter Pan.



We enjoyed breakfast with Father Christmas on December 12, above. Children came along with parents or grandparents and enjoyed a bacon roll. All the children got a gift from Santa.

Elaine McManus  
Stepping Stones

## Would you go vegan?

AFTER the over-indulgence of Christmas, I'm sure many people will be considering turning over a new leaf this January and making a New Year's resolution to be healthier. Might I suggest that those people consider going vegan? The health benefits of a plant-based diet include a lower risk of cardio-vascular disease, diabetes, stroke, and certain types of cancer.

Plus vegans tend to be slimmer, so it could be a great way to lose

weight. Not only that, but by going vegan you ensure that no farmed animals need suffer for the sake of your food. So, why not have a kinder, healthier 2015 and go vegan?

For free information, please contact Animal Aid on 01732 364546 or info@animalaid.org.uk

Ben Martin  
Animal Aid

# Your Pictures



DAVID Thomas sent us this photo of his son, Samuel, 7, having fun in the frozen puddles at East Town Country Park on Monday. He wrote: "How lucky we are to have this park on our doorstep. Thanks to everyone who works so hard to make the park so lovely." ■ We love to see your photos. You can email them to: wendy.davey@cambridge-news.co.uk

## LETTERS POLICY

Letters should arrive by noon on the Monday before publication.

Full name and address must be supplied and details will be withheld only in exceptional circumstances.

Letters should be no longer than 250 words and may be edited.

Send your letters to editorial@haverhillweeklynews.co.uk, or write to The Editor, Haverhill Weekly News, 27 Market Place, Ely, CB7 4NP.



ON YOUR MARKS: Participants in the Haverhill Running Club Santa Run.

## Ready, steady, go as Santa Claus takes to streets of Haverhill

SIXTY runners in red and white could be spotted dashing across town in the run up to Christmas.

The festive blurs, who were dressed as Father – or Mrs – Christmas, were taking part in an annual Santa Run, organised by

Haverhill Running Club.

Trevor Bunch, coach, was celebrating the club's achievements in 2014.

He said: "We started in 1998 and this is the best year ever."

"We now have 215 members, many of

whom joined the club through our beginner's courses and have gone onto greater things."

Annual membership is £25 and includes two weekly training sessions. Visit haverhillrunningclub.com or call 01440 705191.



# Suffolk girl wants to see a return of dying dialect

The woman behind Britain's Got Talent favourite Patsy May spoke to reporter DEBRA FOX about her plans for 2015.

AFTER capturing the heart of the nation through Britain's Got Talent semi-finalist Patsy May, the woman behind the character is looking towards the new year.

Haverhill native Laura Bacon, who now lives in London, gained thousands of fans through Patsy's sassy New York attitude – but 2015 will also see her focus on someone a little closer to home.

Mavis, an ol' Suffolk girl who's lived in Haverhill all her life, was introduced to the town during the annual Christmas lights switch on, held on the market square, and hosted by Patsy.

Handmade by Laura herself, Mavis reminded the older residents of bygone



ON STAGE: Laura Bacon, with Mavis.

days with talk of the long lost railway station, and Ellis's bakery.

Laura, 33, said: "She reminds me of my grandparents, and of their generation and friends and people I have met over the years in Haverhill."

"She's the epitome of Haverhill and

the local community, and I think a lot of people can relate to her and a lot of people that I have shown her to have said, 'she reminds me of my nan'."

Hailed as a "comfort" by Laura, who attended Cangle Primary, Chalkestone Middle and Samuel Ward High schools,

Mavis represents a "dying dialect".

"After my grandparents passed away I was filling in a hole from where they would have been talking," Laura said.

"There're no characters on TV and no characters anywhere else that talk like that. Whenever they try to do a Suffolk accent they end up doing West Country, and it really annoys me."

The 33-year-old hopes to start a #bringsuffolkback trend in the New Year, putting Mavis out there for the world to see.

The ol' girl never goes anywhere without her glasses, Laura said, and always likes to help people – like "that blue girl off the telly" Patsy May.

"I would like to talk about her more, and do more with her because it is a dying dialect, and I'd love to bring it back."

And what does Laura see in Patsy's future?

"I would love to see her do more on TV, and I'm definitely not going to give up on her."

Watch this space.



## Patsy May faces new challenges

SHE'S flirted with Ant and Dec, made a cameo in a music video and gained more than 2,000 likes on Facebook.

Could the new year possibly get any bigger for New York diva Patsy May?

We caught up with Patsy, fresh from switching on Haverhill's Christmas lights in December.

Speaking exclusively, she said: "2014 was a blast. It was, like, the year of change."

"I met some nice people, who I'm now stalking, but I am determined to make even more of myself in 2015."

Patsy, who is from New York but now lives in London, hopes to do more TV work in the forthcoming year – but will also be delivering updates to her devoted fans through her channel on YouTube.

It has almost 500 subscribers. Visit [totallypatsymay.com](http://totallypatsymay.com), follow @PatsyMay on Twitter and like Patsy May on Facebook.

## Mavis tells of hopes for the railway and says she misses Ellis's, the bakers

ONE of Haverhill's most dedicated residents hopes to see the railway station return to the town in 2015.

Mavis, who visited the annual Christmas lights switch on with

her friend, Phyllis, introduced herself to the hundreds-strong crowd in an onstage cameo with special guest Patsy May.

She said: "Now, I think it would

be ever so nice to see the train back up and running. I last used the train in 1959, and as you know the train was taken away in 1965. "I would also like to see Ellis's

the bakers back – I do miss their custard tarts.

"Now, I don't know who Gregg is, but he don't do custard tarts like Ellis's done."

At the switch on, Mavis got a big cheer from her fellow Haverhill-natives in support of the rail return her love of the West Suffolk town.

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Mum and all the family  
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Family Announcements

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## Engagements

### ENGAGED

**BANKS and HAMMOND**  
Rita and Ian

The engagement of Rita (Of Haverhill) and Ian (Of Bury St Edmunds) took place on Friday 19th December 2014 at The Haverhill Sequence Dance Club. The happy couple are feeling young again.



Say it with hearts and flowers

Family Announcements

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### You're Engaged



**Dolby Warner**

Dear Kirsty & Jake, Congratulations to a perfect couple. We are so pleased you are going to become Mr & Mrs Warner. Lots of Love Mum & Chris Lee & Fiona and Chloe XXXXXX

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### BACKLER

The family of the late Irene wish to thank all who sent kind messages of sympathy following their recent sad bereavement.

Thanks also to those who attended the funeral service and sent such kind donations for Dementia UK in her memory. Please accept this as an expression of their sincere gratitude.

### LOWERY Ethel May (Barbara)

Stephen and the family of the late Ethel May (Barbara) wish to thank all those who sent kind messages of sympathy following their recent sad bereavement.

Thanks also to those who attended the funeral service and sent such kind donations to Macmillan Cancer Support (Nursing Fund) in her memory. Please accept this as an expression of their sincere gratitude.

### WADE

The family of the late Beryl wish to thank all who sent kind messages of sympathy following their recent sad bereavement. Thanks also to those who attended the funeral service and sent such beautiful flowers in her memory. Please accept this as an expression of their sincere gratitude.

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Find peace in your time of loss by dedicating a heartfelt message in memory of your loved one.

Visit [www.thissads.co.uk](http://www.thissads.co.uk) to read a decade of tributes in memoriam.

Family Announcements



BUMPER COLLECTION: Members of 1st Stop Recruitment.

Picture: Henry Wilson

# Food gift to help ease hardship

A RECRUITMENT agency has donated enough food for five families following a bumper collection.

1st Stop Recruitment, based in Haverhill's Jubilee Walk, has collected more than 100kg of items for Haverhill Foodbank from staff and clients alike.

Henry Wilson, projects director at REACH, which operates the foodbank, said the donation equates to "five small family boxes" or "10 single person boxes" of food.

He said: "It is still very tough for many people in our community and these donations will go a long way in alleviat-

### DEBRA FOX

ing the hardship that families face in our locality."

Companies which donated to the collection included the Design Office, Doxbond and Winplus.

1st Stop has supported the foodbank for three years. It has collected 361kg in total over this time.

The foodbank is "thankful" for the enthusiasm and support from the business, Mr Wilson added.

Lesley Whiting, director, said: "The response this year has been fantastic."

"The generosity from clients

and friends to our appeal has really knocked our socks off."

"This time of year is amazing if you are surrounded by friends and family and have plenty to eat and drink. But for many this is not the case and not how they would want to be spending Christmas."

Staff presented the donation to Ann Merrigan, foodbank manager, on December 16 at the agency's offices.

REACH also provides Haverhill's furniture bank, and a range of other services, including debt advice.

■ For more information about REACH Community Projects, turn to page 10.

## Volunteers needed to aid struggling families

TWO partnership councils are calling for local residents to sacrifice some free time to help families in need.

St Edmundsbury Borough and Forest Heath District councils are together backing the launch of Home-Start, a family support charity, which is coming to West Suffolk.

The organisation is appealing for volunteers with parental experience to encourage families in their own homes.

All that is needed is

two or three hours a week. Training will be provided.

A training course will start later this month.

Cllr Sara Mildmay-White, cabinet member for health and communities, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of those families in our area, who, for whatever reason, are struggling - but it needs volunteers to succeed."

For more information email [office@homes-tartmidsuffolk.org.uk](mailto:office@homes-tartmidsuffolk.org.uk) or call 01379 678552.

## Campaign targets 1,000 smokers

A HEALTH campaign has been launched in a bid to get 1,000 smokers to stub out their habit for good.

Residents living in Haverhill are being encouraged to take advantage of the free stop smoking service operated by Live Well Suffolk.

Between now and March the organisation wants to help 1,000 people give up smoking. Henry Tapp, team leader, said: "Once you quit smoking, your sense of smell and taste improves and your risk of serious health conditions such as cancer, stroke and heart disease reduces dramatically."

"It will also mean that your children and family members won't be exposed to second hand smoke, so their health will benefit too."

To sign up text QUIT to 8001, call 01473 229292 or visit [livelwellsuffolk.org.uk](http://livelwellsuffolk.org.uk).



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# Charity helps with hand ups, not hand outs

DEBRA FOX

**EVERY** day families wake up from a night's sleep on the floor, with not enough money for food ... and start a new day worrying about debt.

In Haverhill these people can turn to REACH.

The charity, which will this year celebrate 10 years of service in October, has had a whirlwind 2014 and is prepared for an even busier 2015.

REACH provides a food-bank, furniture bank and debt advice service – but, perhaps most importantly, the advisers are there to listen.

Henry Wilson, projects director, said they were all about 'restoring dignity and reviving hope'.

"It's about a little bit of light at the end of the tunnel, and for a lot of people it's about having somebody with you rather than feeling that you're on your own."

Basic food and furniture parcels are available for those who need it – but REACH offers practical advice to ensure it is a "hand up", not a hand out.

New duvets and pillows are provided in furniture starter packs, along with cutlery, microwavable pots, towels, a kettle and cooking utensils.

Donated nearly-new items are welcomed.

Basic food parcels are filled with cereal, soup, pasta and tinned items, as well as vegetables, meat, tea and coffee.

When available, treats of chocolate, jam, noodles and ketchup are provided.

Voluntary advisers staff the resource centre, in Leiston Road, each afternoon and also offer help with budgeting, household problems and benefit issues.

Free internet is available on site for those who need it to



**HELP:** Loading up the van with furniture, left. Above: Projects director Henry Wilson

apply for jobs or benefits and complete forms.

During our visit, a man in his 30s who moved to Haverhill in September with his pregnant partner visited the centre.

The couple, who live in a bedsit on the Chalkstone Estate, first visited REACH when they arrived in town from Ipswich. They had been placed in emergency accommodation.

He said: "If it wasn't for this place I don't know what we would have done."

"The council put us in somewhere with no furniture, no electric, nothing. We slept on the floor for three or four nights, even though my partner was pregnant."

At the start of December, the couple entered a claim to switch from Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA) to Income Support. They were given one week of JSA money, despite their new benefits not starting for weeks. The couple had no electricity.

Once again, they visited REACH to receive a food parcel, and for help with their benefits application.

"They should have a place

like this in every town. When we asked the council about furniture they said they would get back to us, and we had to apply for funding.

"We are on benefits, so we can't afford to put money away."

In 2015, REACH hopes to be able to assist with more affordable housing for low income families and develop the charity's money advice service, which launched towards the end of 2014.

Mr Wilson said: "When we are in debt, we wake up and think, 'who is going to ring today and who is going to knock on the door'."

"To get that stopped and get that debt lifted, there's nothing like it. We are in it for the long haul. We really want to support people for as long as it takes."

■ The REACH Resource Centre is open Monday to Friday, from 2pm until 5pm.

■ The Furniture Bank makes collections and deliveries on Tuesdays and Fridays.

■ Visit [reachhaverhill.org.uk](http://reachhaverhill.org.uk) or call the centre on 01440 268003. Donations are always welcome.



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- Visit to Bath



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### Mystery Valentine's Weekend

Departing on 14 February 2015

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- Private coach travel from your local area
- One night's stay with three course evening meal & cooked breakfast



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### Severn Valley Railway Spring Steam Gala

Departing on 21 March 2015

This wonderful event stirs up distance memories of a simpler time, when steam trains reigned supreme. As well as the traditional line up of beautifully restored celebrity steam locomotives, there will be a host of attractions held at each station, and we also enjoy a steam hauled trip along the full length of the line.

#### Prices Includes:

- Private coach travel from your local area
- One night's stay with three course evening meal & cooked breakfast
- Visit to Blists Hill Victorian Town
- Visit to the Severn Valley Railway Spring Steam Gala
- Journey on Severn Valley Railway from Bridgnorth to Kidderminster

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# Loan shark campaign a success

**ORGANISATIONS** across Haverhill united in an awareness week against illegal lenders.

**DEBRA FOX**

A new report from the England Illegal Money Lending Team has revealed the successes of the clamp down against loan sharks, which ran from November 24 until November 28.

One report of suspected loan sharking was received over the five day period, with information passed to partners in the scheme.

The week's mascot, Sid the Shark, handed out around 300 stickers to pupils at local schools and could also be spotted elsewhere around the town raising awareness.

Lesson plans on the dangers of loan sharks were also issued to schools including Burton End, Place Farm and Clements Primary School.

A quiz, co-ordinated by Havebury Housing, Eastern Savings and Loans and Haverhill Library, was completed by more than 100 people – with a £100 prize up for grabs. Haverhill Town Council, Suffolk

County Council, Trading Standards, REACH Community Projects and Suffolk Police also supported the campaign.

A charter signing, with all interested parties, took part at Haverhill Arts Centre on the first day of the scheme, and training was given.

Nine of these organisations have submitted potential logos for the scheme – which will be produced at a later date.

Speaking at the scheme's launch, Cllr Roger André, town mayor, said loan sharks "will not be tolerated" and will be brought to justice, while Sasha Watson, community engagement officer for Suffolk Trading Standards spoke of the success of similar schemes elsewhere.

To report a loan shark confidentially, call 0300 555 2222.

Visit [facebook.com/stoploan-sharksproject](http://facebook.com/stoploan-sharksproject) for more information.



**FUNDRAISERS:** Members of the class hand over the cheque for St Nicholas Hospice Care.

## Group donates party takings to hospice charity

A KEEP active class has donated their Christmas party takings to charity. The over 50s class at Haverhill Leisure Centre raised £176 through a raffle at their party, held on December 15. Members decided to donate the money to St Nicholas Hospice Care.

Anne Jendoubi, Keep Active attendant, said: "I would like to thank all our class members for their support in 2014 and for supporting St Nicholas Hospice Care by donating Christmas raffle prizes and buying tickets." People from the class presented a cheque

to their colleague, and hospice family support team member Janet Ridsdill-Smith last month. The group has 130 members, and it meets every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday for a gentle aerobic programme.

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# A look back

## Debra Fox looks at some of the main stories which made headlines last year

### JANUARY:

■ Paul Firman, of UKIP, was elected to Haverhill Town Council following the death of Les Ager in October 2013. Cllr Tony Brown, also of UKIP, was voted in to replace Cllr Ager on St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

■ Comedian Alan Carr announced a surprise visit to Haverhill as a warm up to his tour. Tickets sold out in a record 90 minutes.

■ HaverHalf and Haver10 – the town's first half marathon and 10k run – were announced, in aid of St Nicholas Hospice Care. Jack Tappin, race director, called for runners to sign up.

■ Local people were disappointed following the closure of Morley's, on Queen Street, and the departure of Tony Strowger Jewellery, in the High Street.

### FEBRUARY:

■ Planning Inspector Roger Clews visited Haverhill for a planning inquiry over the town's Vision 2031 plan. A number of public hearings were held, and invited parties were able to ask questions.

■ The county came to a standstill as heavy rain flooded roads in and around Haverhill. Pupils were sent home from schools and people were left stranded.

■ Reginald Smith, of Brinkman Road, Linton, was jailed for causing death by dangerous driving. Smith, who was 60 at the time of sentencing, was given 14 months in jail for killing dad-of-two Dean Cork on April 23 at West Wrattling.

### MARCH:

■ Cllr Tony Brown called for irresponsible dog owners to clean up after their pets.

■ Outgoing town clerk Will Austin left his post to take up a new role in Devon.

■ New American diner Route 66 opened its doors.

### APRIL:

■ Colin Poole was announced as the town's new clerk.

■ A project which could bring £200,000 to the Clements Estate was announced. Community Action Suffolk revealed that a bid had been made to the People's Health Trust for the area to access the money.

■ An innovative sculpture designed by students at Samuel Ward Academy would no longer be placed in the town centre, it was revealed. The "Haverhill head" would instead remain at the school due to health and safety concerns.

### MAY:

■ Haverhill welcomed the first ever HaverHalf and Haver10 and, despite wet weather, hundreds of residents turned out to support the runners.



**BRAVERY:** Savannah Hanlon, above, with mum Wendy Hanlon. Savannah, who is autistic, went through a tribunal to attend the correct school for her needs. She started at the Gretton School in January.

**REMEMBRANCE:** Poppy making at Haverhill Library.



■ Residents living across the Clements Estate expressed their disgust at plans to bulldoze garages to make way for flats.

■ An independent mini-market in the town fell victim to an attempted robbery. Primrose Mini Market owner Ainkaran Jeyarajah spoke about the incident for which two people were arrested.

■ We met Patsy May, *Britain's Got Talent's* favourite puppet, as her true identity was revealed as former Haverhill woman and former Samuel Ward pupil, Laura Bacon.

■ Haverhill's young people put their business skills to the test with the town's first ever youth market.

### JUNE:

■ Cllr Roger Andre, town mayor, and Cllr Maureen Byrne, deputy mayor, took on their roles for a second term.

■ A development which will transform the North West of Haverhill was approved by St Edmundsbury Borough Council despite numerous concerns.

■ An innovative hospice outreach centre opened its doors to the Haverhill community. The Burton Centre, on Camps Road, was taken over by St Nicholas hospice Care.

■ A Haverhill man in his 90s was jailed for historic sex

offences – and became the country's oldest paedophile to be sent to jail. Frederick Smith, 94, of Camps Road, previously pleaded guilty to four counts of indecent assault and one count of indecency with a child under 14.

### JULY:

■ The town's mayor and deputy were furious after being told to "stop carping" by the leader of the borough, Cllr John Griffiths, as the town's petition to restore Council Tax Support to the town council was voted against by 26 councillors.

■ Coupsals Primary School was put into special measures by Ofsted following the results of a recent inspection. The staff vowed to transform the school, with improvements already under way.

■ The *Weekly News* launched its Let's Read Campaign to get more youngsters reading for pleasure. We sent out an appeal for local volunteers to spare a couple of hours each week to get into schools and help pupils read. The scheme is supported by Haverhill Library and most of the town's schools.

■ Weird and wonderful characters paid a visit to Haverhill High Street as part of the annual Haverhill Street Festival.

■ Vintage vehicles and sporty numbers lined



# at the headlines of 2014

Haverhill town centre for a weekend full of motor fun. The town's first motorshow took place, followed by the annual transport rally.

■ The sun shone for the Summer Bash. The event expanded to two days for the first time with one day of sports and music, and the other full of fair fun.

■ A Haverhill GP defended plans for two local surgeries to merge. Dr Bamidele Sule spoke at a town council meeting about how the change was best for his practice, Stourview, Dr Selby and Partners and residents.

## AUGUST:

■ St Edmundsbury Borough Council revealed plans to stop political stalls and those for pressure groups from trading on local markets. Politicians from all parties across Haverhill expressed their disgust at the plans.

■ Suffolk County Council launched a consultation into the future of children's centres in the county. It was revealed that Haverhill's two centres were earmarked to merge. On Track, in Strassbourg Square, would close, with services being delivered in the home, at the Chalkstone Community Centre and by Cartwheels, on Greenfields Way.

■ Haverhill rector Ian Finn was formally charged with fraud by abuse of position, months after his first arrest.

## SEPTEMBER:

■ Pixelated Projects revealed its ambition to take over Haverhill Corn



Exchange and turn it into a base for the whole community, and beyond.

■ Coupsals Primary School, which was branded inadequate by Ofsted at an inspection in May, announced plans to become part of the Samuel Ward Academy Trust.

■ West Suffolk MP Matthew Hancock was fined £1,600 for "using the wrong stationery". Haverhill resident John Insole complained about a "campaigning letter" sent by the MP to homes in his constituency.

## OCTOBER:

■ Haverhill was shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Cllr Gordon Cox, who was found dead at his home in the town. Cllr Cox, 66,

was remembered fondly by friends, family and colleagues.

■ Hundreds of people flocked to Haverhill Arts Centre to attend Matthew Hancock's jobs fair.

■ Athletics history was made in Haverhill for the second time with the town's first triathlon, HaverTri. More than 170 competitors turned up to take part in a choice of three distances.

■ New proposals for A-boards across St Edmundsbury were slammed by traders. Businesses hit out at the borough council for trying to enforce planning permission for the boards, and called for action to be taken against vehicles using the High Street and illegal parking first.



**VICTORY:** The HaverHalf and Haver10 races, left. **SUPERSTAR:** the town queues to see Patsy May switch on Christmas lights, above.

## NOVEMBER:

■ Police launched an appeal after a rare African pygmy hedgehog was stolen from a Haverhill pet shop. The animal, which requires special care and diet, was taken from G L Petfoods.

■ Haverhill Cricket Club revealed plans to build a second ground.

■ Dad-of-one Scott Macleay spoke to the *Weekly News* about his desire to join the fight against ISIS. Mr Macleay said he was "under no illusion" that he could be killed – but he was willing to risk it to protect women and children dying in Syria.

■ An awareness week clamping down on loan sharks came to Haverhill for the first time.

## DECEMBER:

■ St Nicholas Hospice Care won £50,000 in the People's Millions competition.

The charity is going to use the money to create a community garden at the Burton Centre, in Haverhill's Camps Road. The hospice competed with a dementia project in Norfolk to win the money through a public vote.

■ *Britain's Got Talent* superstar Patsy May visited Haverhill to switch on the Christmas lights.

■ It was revealed that an 8-year-old talented gymnast is having to travel to Colchester to train because Haverhill Gymnastics Club can't offer him enough hours.

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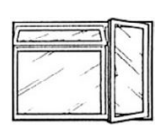
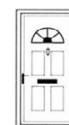
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# And a Happy New Year to you all

■ **Cllr Roger André, town mayor:** As we embark on a New Year, with all the promise of fresh commitment and renewed energy, I am encouraged by consideration of the progress we are achieving in improving our community.

Haverhill has a great deal of community spirit, evidenced by our outstanding community events, our huge range of volunteer services and our enthusiasm to expand our town.

The year ahead will demonstrate our enthusiasm to harness that community spirit in real change – driven and motivated by the aspirations of our community.

■ **Cllr Tony Brown, St Edmundsbury Borough and Suffolk County councils:** Happy New Year to all our residents and a special, great big thank you to all of the people of our town who have worked so hard and gone the extra mile in our community and volunteer groups to make Haverhill such a special place.

I'm looking forward to the New Year when we can all engage with the town centre planning process, come up with ideas and shape the future of where we live for the better. Exciting times ahead.

■ **Cllr Maureen Byrne, deputy mayor:** I am proud and humble to be the elected Labour councillor for the South Ward.

The year past has been exceptionally busy. Our councillors are actively engaged in education services in our community and the drive to improve our schools enjoys our 'hands on' support.

The year ahead presents no fewer challenges, we are fully committed to continue the struggle.

For me this year will be the time to stand up and fight back against the impact of high energy costs, low incomes, poor transport links and the culture of blaming the disadvantaged and migrants for the financial hardships created by uncaring bankers and corporations.

■ **Cllr Robert Everitt, mayor of St Edmundsbury:** As Mayor of St Edmundsbury I would like to continue the partnership that has developed between town councils, parish councils, and St Edmundsbury Borough Council, that has seen us working together to improve the lives of our residents and communities here in West Suffolk.

■ **Cllr Julian Flood, Suffolk County Council:** I've had some pretty good jobs over the years. I've flown over the Nevada desert in a Buccaneer at more than 600 miles an hour, and I've walked through my polytunnels full of plants which I'd raised from cuttings, all mine, but the best job I've ever had is being the county councillor

## The new year means a new start – but what does it mean for Haverhill? Reporter Debra Fox grabs some thoughts about 2015 from some leading personalities in the town



**THE YEAR AHEAD:** Above: Mayor Cllr Roger André; Colin Poole, town clerk; Henry Wilson from REACH; Samuel Ward Academy's Howard Lay. Below: Cllr Maureen Byrne and Cllr Anne Gower



for Haverhill Cangle. Someone asks for help and you try to help, what could be better?

Next year it's all to fight for again, more battles and more people to help.

■ **Cllr Anne Gower, St Edmundsbury Borough and Suffolk County councils:** I just hope that in 2015 Haverhill is recognised as the brilliant community centred, vibrant town it is.

I would like to see the most vulnerable people get the help and support they need and deserve instead of services being merged or taken away completely.

My personal wish is to see more health care services in the town, an increase in the awareness of dementia and finally that we keep both children's centres open and continuing to offer the much needed support services to our young families.

■ **Howard Lay, executive principal of the Samuel Ward Academy Trust:** I hope that Haverhill continues to develop as the vibrant, energetic and forward thinking town it now is.

As the town prepares for expansion in a few years' time it needs to ensure that its infrastructure is appropriate and sustainable and I believe that 2015 is the year when some creative and imaginative ideas should be agreed.

Haverhill's youth gives it

strength, power and vigour which if properly channelled provides a huge resource.

I hope that in 2015 adults give all our children the respect, support and help they require.

They are the future generation, the leaders that will shape the hopes and ambitions we have today.

■ **Captain Andrew Payne, St Mary the Virgin Haverhill:** Have you thought about the presents? No, not YOUR presents, but those Wise Men gave Jesus.

Gold represents kingship and the riches of heaven. Frankincense was an expensive perfume with various uses; often burning incense is a prayer, but it represents worship. And Myrrh which is also a type of perfume used for anointing the dead.

Jesus was the promised King, the Son of God, who would die for the sins of the world, and rise again as King forever.

If we celebrate Christmas then we must also remember Easter. The two tie in together and if we miss that then we've really missed the whole point of Christmas!

So as we go into 2015 make it the year to find out the whole story and come to church for Easter as well.

■ **Colin Poole, town clerk:** In February the town council, along with Haverbury Housing and St Edmundsbury Borough, will be leading a

Community "Spring Clean" under the ONE Haverhill banner.

This is an opportunity for families, voluntary, sports and community groups, work colleagues and businesses to adopt a bit of Haverhill to spruce up.

It may be to tidy the public

pavement and verge right outside your property, or perhaps you could wash down a grimy road sign or clear off flyposting from lamp posts.

Together, these things all help us live in a nicer town. Although it is a one-off event, the hope is that people will be protective of their contribu-

tion and feel empowered to keep it going. So go out and stake your claim on your town.

■ **Henry Wilson, REACH projects director:** In October REACH will have been working in the local community for 10 years and I'll be 50.

Throughout the year we will be hosting a few events to mark our 10th anniversary and I am hoping to carry out a few challenges in the hope that together we can raise £10,000 for REACH.

2014 has been a good year; we held our very first dinner in May and launched our own in-house debt counselling project in November.

We also helped 10 times the amount of people we helped in 2005.

As for my dreams; I'd love to see more affordable homes, the gap between rich and poor reduced and more people helped with poverty related issues.

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# Sharon strikes at her slimming

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**A** WEIGHT loss expert from Littleport has struck gold for the exceptional work she does in helping more than 100 people to lose weight at her local group every week.

Sharon, who runs the group, has been awarded 'gold' status by the national slimming club because of her success in supporting slimmers to reach their dream weight, and the super service she provides to those members.

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Sharon said: "I am delighted to have received the 'gold' award. I absolutely love my job, I'm passionate about helping people to transform their lives by losing weight and seeing them succeed is reward enough, but being given this recognition for the whole group really is the icing on the cake. This award belongs to

the Littleport group's 135 members. They're the ones who make our group the success that it is, with their fabulous commitment, the wonderful support they give each other every week, and, obviously, their impressive weight losses while following Slimming World's Food Optimising eating plan. They make the group a fun, buzzy place to be and I can safely say I always look forward to going to work. I truly believe I have the best job in the world.

"The group has really put healthy weight loss on the map in Littleport. Together they've lost an amazing 316 stone this year. Obesity is at record levels everywhere,

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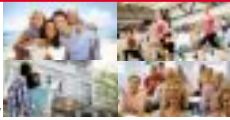




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# gold club

and many people are suffering a range of weight-related health problems from diabetes to heart problems, and feelings of low self-worth that impact on their working and personal lives every day. It's never been more important that overweight people get the support to make changes and lead healthier lives – both for themselves and the future generations, their children, too."

To join the Littleport group, which is held every Tuesday at 6pm and 7.30pm at the Leisure Centre, Camel Road, either pop along or give Sharon a call on (01353) 861499.

Sharon also runs a 9.30am group every Tuesday at the Leisure Centre, and another group at Swaffham Prior Village Hall every Thursday at 5.30pm and 7pm.



GOLD SERVICE: Sharon with her award

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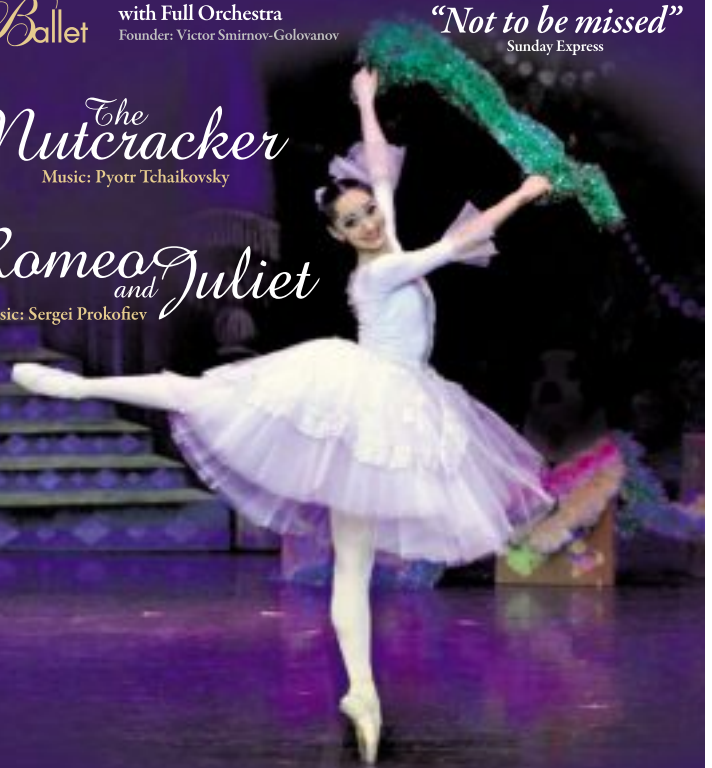
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5:30 & 7:30

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Haverhill Newcroft Chalkstone Way

Tania 07974 565229

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What's on 22

Gardening 22

# the GUIDE

## Focus on the theatre

GRAB your straw boater and have a right old giggle thanks to Craig Gilbert's adaptation of the 1889 tale, **Three Men in a Boat** (To Say Nothing of the Dog), by English writer Jerome K. Jerome.

Dubbed a "boating misadventure", a trio of jolly good mates (yes, it's a tad well to do) embark on a trip down the Thames, complete with gaudy blazers, bawdy tunes, raucous stories and, presumably, damp feet.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Wednesday, January 21 – Saturday, January 24. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

### The Witches of Eastwick

John Updike's cackling witches of Eastwick will be stretching their voices in this performance by the Cambridge University Musical Theatre Society. Alexandra Spofford, Jane Smart and Sukie Rougemont are bored, lonely and ostracised by their little town, so, not-so sensibly they look to a devilish rogue to solve all their problems. Things do not go to plan. Be careful what you wish for...

■ The ADC, Tuesday, February 3 – Saturday, February 7. Contact (01223) 300085/adctheatre.com.

### Roundelay

A rather random evening is in store with Roundelay. It consists of five short interconnected stories that can be jumbled up and played in any order from writer and director Alan Ayckbourn.

Sound like a bit of a muddle? Well, yes. The idea is that each individual piece can be a prelude, a sequel, an aside, an addition, to each other narrative fragment. There are 120 possible combinations and outcomes, and even the actors only find out 25 minutes before going on stage which set up they'll be performing that night. There are just so many opportunities for it all to go horribly wrong, which always adds to the drama.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Monday, February 9 – Saturday, February 14. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.

**Ella Walker takes a look at what entertainment theatre audiences can look forward to in the new year**

purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

### Grounded

Presented by Gate Theatre and Beckie Darlington, a female fighter pilot has gotten pregnant and lost her right to fly the skies. She's now trapped in an air-conditioned trailer in Las Vegas flying remote controlled drones. So how exactly do you reconcile hunting and killing terrorists on 12-hour shifts, with going home and being a mum? Prepare to be utterly gripped.

■ Cambridge Junction, Wednesday, February 18. Contact (01223) 511511/junction.co.uk.

### Oh! What A Lovely War

Joan Littlewood's much lauded musical, Oh What A Lovely War, has been revived to commemorate the 100th anniversary of World War I. First staged in 1963, Littlewood set out to make audiences leave the theatre laughing at the "vulgarity of war", while the tunes to It's a Long Way to Tipperary, Pack Up Your Troubles in Your Old Kit-Bag and Keep the Home Fires Burning spun in brains. In this colourful production, Corrie's Wendi Peters and Ian Reddington (EastEnders) star.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Monday, March 2 – Saturday, March 7. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.

purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

### The Strip

"Ten characters chase their wants and hopes across the transatlantic wilderness for forgotten clichés of love and success – will they make it before the impending solar eclipse?" In Phyllis Nagy's warped American dream, bleakness, bitterness and satire simply thrash the idea of celebrity.

■ The ADC, Tuesday, March 3 – Saturday, March 7. Contact (01223) 300085/adctheatre.com.

Continued on page 22



**THREE MEN IN A BOAT:** Time to have a right old giggle as a trio of jolly good mates embark on a trip down the Thames

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broadcast  
The Nutcracker  
24 – 25 Jan & 29 – 31 Jan  
Peter Pan  
Tue 3 Feb • 7.30pm  
Hermitage Revealed

**CINEMA**

Fri 2 Jan • 2.30pm  
The Book of Life (U) 2d  
Fri 2 Jan • 10.30am  
Mon 5 Jan • 10.30am  
Frozen Singalong (PG)  
Mon 5 Jan • 7.30pm  
2001: A Space Odyssey (U)  
Fri 9 Jan • 7.30pm  
Mr. Turner (12A)

the **GUIDE**

## what's on

**The King's Speech**

Jason Donovan (seriously!) is stepping into Geoffrey Rush's considerable shoes to play Australian speech therapist Lionel Logue, the man to help the stuttering stammering King George VI (Bertie, in this case played by Raymond Coulthard, rather than the dashing Colin Firth unfortunately). If you don't know the story, Bertie has had to take on the crown after his brother Edward chose divorcee Wallis Simpson over the royal position. But with his speech impediment, public speaking – on the brink of a war – is more than a little terrifying. Then he visits the rambunctious Logue...

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Monday, March 9 – Saturday, March 14. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

**The Woman In Black**

Ready to start shrieking? The Woman In Black has several objectives, mainly to make you shiver, and scream and go home a shaken wreck. So it's just the thing if you're in need of a spine-chilling thrill. There will be much edge-of-the-seat action and hiding behind hands in this adaptation – the second longest running West End drama of all time – of Susan Hill's 1983 novel. Now, if only we could rope Daniel Radcliffe into reprising his role.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Monday, March 16 – Saturday, March 21. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

**Pioneer**

"Pioneer shuttles you from the Garden of Eden to mission control and onto the surface of Mars," intriguing, no? This sci-fi exploration, set in 2029, from Curious Directive earned the team the accolade 'Fringe First winners in 2014', so they must be good. See how they manage a terrifying expedition to Mars.

■ Cambridge Junction, Wednesday, March 18. Contact (01223) 511511/junction.co.uk.

**Rebecca**

"Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again..." What an unbeatable opening line. Hopefully, theatre company Kneehigh have woven it into their version of Daphne Du Maurier's creepy, romantic



**AN EVENING OF BURLESQUE: a show dripping with glitz, glamour and decadence**

classic, Rebecca. Maxim de Winter's first wife Rebecca died in mysterious circumstances, but she can still be felt throughout Manderley by his new wife, her secrets and memories kept aflame by the formidable housekeeper Mrs Danvers.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Monday, March 23 – Saturday, March 28. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

**An Evening of Burlesque**

So, the corsets will be wrenched in, the heels fully sharpened and the stockings rolled on, for a show dripping with glitz, glamour and decadence. An Evening of Burlesque returns with another tantalising programme of cabaret performances. There'll be moments that scream Arabian Nights, as well as flirty fan dancing, forties inspired sirens, 'bubblegum blowing baseball babes' and 'cheese-cake pin-ups' – which we'll leave to your imagination.

■ Cambridge Corn Exchange, Saturday, March 28. Contact (01223) 357851/cornex.co.uk.

**Peter Pan Goes Wrong**

There'll be much clattering about, clumsiness, silliness and farcical goings on as The Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society set out to stage J.M. Barrie's Peter Pan. Everything is going to go wrong. Winner of best new comedy at the 2014 Watson-stage Awards, the lost boys are going to be even more lost than usual... From the team that brought The Play That Goes Wrong to the Arts Theatre last year, the chances are you'll be rolling in the aisles.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Tuesday, April 7 – Sunday, April 12. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

**Footlights**

This is the traditional Footlights showcase, where the brightest, the loudest, and the most thespian of Cambridge University students ditch their studies for two nights to share their current crop of sketches.

There'll be songs, stand-up and snippets of hilarity to dip into, from a selection of students that'll no doubt be the next lot to find themselves

shouting out on Mock the Week and Have I Got News For You. See them in action before it all goes to their heads.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Friday, April 17 – Saturday, April 18. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

**This Is How We Die**

Motor-mouthed spoken word artist, performer and musician Christopher Brett Bailey told us this new show is: "a dense and vicious theatrical monologue that weaves grotesque imagery, absurdist storytelling and comedic opinion pieces to explore our fixation on apocalypse, violence and death. With lots of sex jokes along the way." Sounds like a right laugh.

■ Cambridge Junction, Wednesday, April 29. Contact (01223) 511511/junction.co.uk.

**Hollie McNish**

Cambridge spoken word poet Hollie is not only magnificent, penning pieces on everything from immigration to breastfeeding in public loos, she's also branched out into EPs, setting her verses to music, become a viral YouTube hit and won the UK Slam Poetry Finals. She's amazing. If you haven't seen her perform at Cambridge's premier spoken word night, Hammer & Tongue, you've been missing out. Now she's (finally) headlining at Cambridge Junction, it's about time. After all, the legend that is Benjamin Zephaniah said: "I can't take my ears off her." Don't argue with the man.

■ Cambridge Junction, Tuesday, May 5. Contact (01223) 511511/junction.co.uk.

**The Importance of Being Earnest**

Such fantastic news this is on, what ho! In Oscar Wilde's practically perfect comedy of manners, dandy Algernon Moncrieff and the straight laced John Worthing J.P. embark on double lives to win the hearts of Gwendolyn Fairfax and Cecily Cardew. However, before they get what they want, they'll have to deal with the exacting (and mildly terrifying) Lady Bracknell, here played by none other than Poirot! Sorry, we mean David Suchet. Catch it before it heads to the West End.

■ Cambridge Arts Theatre, Monday, May 18 – Saturday, May 23. Contact (01223) 503333/cambridgeartstheatre.purchase-tickets-online.co.uk.

the **GUIDE**

# Guerrilla gardeners

**HOW would you feel if a piece of disused land or a neglected urban space, such as a grass verge or roundabout, was suddenly made into a productive veg patch or pretty flower field?**

Well, on the surface it might seem a no-brainer, but according to a recent study by university professor Peter Larkham, not everyone takes kindly to guerrilla gardeners cultivating land that they often do not have the legal right to use.

Professor Larkham has now written a book, *Informal Urban Agriculture: The Secret Lives Of Guerrilla Gardeners* (www.springer.com), in collaboration with his former PhD student Mike Hardman, in which they interview and observe groups of guerrilla gardeners in the Midlands, where a lively community has formed in recent years.

Professor Larkham, associate head of Birmingham City University's School of the Built Environment, says: "Guerrilla gardening is an international phenomenon. Those involved take part for a number of reasons, from brightening up their neighbourhoods to using gardening as a form of political protest.

"The land they are targeting is quite varied. It seem to range from traffic roundabouts and roadside grass verges to bits of land that one planner once called SLOP – Space Left Over after Planning – to derelict sites, unused patches of land which are clearly in somebody's ownership but aren't in any sort of productive use.

"In the book, we particularly focus on the guerrilla gardeners who plant edible crops, investigating the reasons why they get involved – for some, it is more 'naughtiness' than the wider public health benefits that could result."

He says it is not known how many guerrilla gardeners there are in this country – or how much land they cultivate – partly because the practice is illegal and partly because land ownership is so fragmented. But it has changed as social media has enabled individuals to link together to form small groups.

The reaction of landowners to these guerrilla gardeners is usually negative, he observes.

"They don't like their land being interfered with. What the guerrillas do can be quite varied. Some of them just want places to look a little

**GARDENING TIPS**

by **Hannah Stephenson**

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"They don't like their land being interfered with. What the guerrillas do can be quite varied. Some of them just want places to look a little



nicer, so they just scatter flower seeds. In one famous case in New York, guerrillas threw bundles of flower seeds over fences into unused patches of land and called it 'flower bombing'.

"Others go on to the land and clear it, cultivate it and grow either flowers or productive crops. It's the trespass which landowners don't like."

However, some communities have come together through guerrilla gardening, he says. "Look around our towns and cities and there's a massive amount of unused land which could be used. Our research was looking at what happens to these guerrillas once they've made their point. Do they start looking for land they could cultivate legally? I suspect that's the future, that guerrilla gardening is part of a wider urban agriculture movement."

The research found that the impact of guerrilla gardening on communities was mixed.

"A small number were negative. They weren't consulted. They felt aggrieved that it was being done on land adjacent to their property. But the majority were very supportive. They could see the

change being positive, the land being used, being looked after a bit more."

There are some areas where guerrilla gardening has really taken root and inspired and brought together the community, such as Todmorden, in Calderdale, West Yorkshire.

"A small-scale guerrilla gardening movement was looking to make prettier what was a small industrial town. That grabbed everybody's consciousness and the movement took off, legal sites were found and it's really at the forefront of a legal urban agriculture movement which now comes under the label 'Incredible edible Todmorden'.

"It's made a significant difference, particularly in summer when the plants and the crops are much more visible. The place is greener, more interesting and is helping a lot in building a community response as to what sort of opportunity we can make of derelict patches of land.

"When the council found it was a positive thing rather than purely a case of illegal trespass, they got behind it."

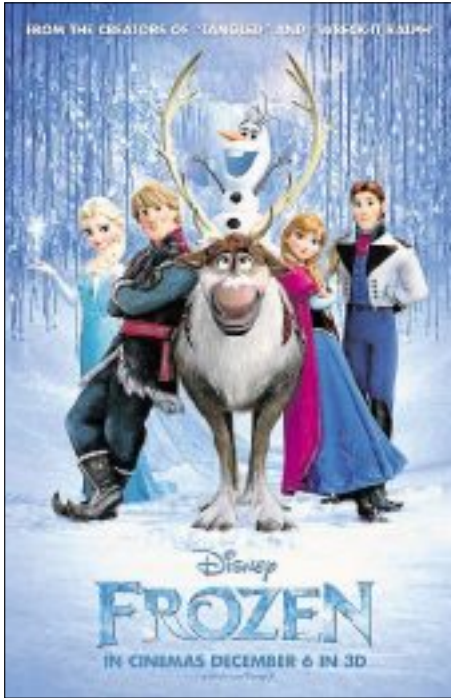
## gardening



## Latest news and events from



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SINGALONG: Disney's Frozen.

■ A happy and healthy New Year to customers old and new, our new theatre and cinema programmes are full of goodies for you to mull over while you are recovering from what we hope was a wonderful Christmas.

■ We are showing a recorded broadcast of Tchaikovsky's magical Christmas ballet **THE NUTCRACKER** by The Bolshoi Ballet on January 4 at 3pm. On Christmas Eve, Marie's magician godfather gives her a nutcracker carved in the shape of a man. At midnight, when the celebrations are over, the toys magically spring to life. The ballet is based on E.T.A. Hoffman's story which continues to enchant audiences young and old. Go on, spoil yourselves!

■ On the cinema front join us for a sing song on January 2 and 5 at 10.30am, when **FROZEN SINGALONG (PG)** is showing. You can sing along with the on-screen lyrics to one of the most popular films of 2014. The sweet and intrepid Anna is desperately searching for her missing sister Elsa, whose icy powers have thrown the kingdom of Arendelle into eternal

winter.

In **THE BOOK OF LIFE 2D (U)** on January 2 at 2.30pm, the beautiful young Maria must choose between two suitors, Manolo and Joaquin.

However, two spirits La Muerte and Xibalba bet on who'll win her over and when Maria falls for Manolo, Xibalba despatches a snake to kill him.

Stanley Kubrick's 1968 epic exploration of technology and humanity **2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (U)** has been digitally remastered. Come along on January 5 at 7.30pm to see why super-computer HAL 9000 is listed as the 13th greatest film villain in the AFI's 100 Years...100 Heroes and Villains.

Finally **MR TURNER (12A)** is a study of Britain's great landscape artist, J.M.W. Turner, Mike Leigh's first biopic since his 1999 scrutiny of Gilbert and Sullivan, featuring Timothy Spall. The close relationship with his ailing father and the more complex ones involving the women in his life are beautifully realised along with Turner's run-ins with the Royal Academy. We have screenings on January 9 and January 26 at 7.30pm.

■ Events to look forward to

include Selected English Artists Part 1 by Roger Simpson, a series of ten wide-ranging talks covering the whole sweep of English art history, which start on Wednesday

■ 14 January at 2pm. Haverhill Art Group meet on Wednesday, 14 January at 7.30pm with a pastel demonstration by Jenny May, and Centre Stage Company whisk us off with a sprinkling of fairy dust to Neverland with Peter Pan from Saturday 24 to Saturday 31 January.

## ■ LISTINGS

■ Thursday January 1 - CLOSED

■ Friday January 2 at 10.30am **FROZEN SINGALONG (PG)** £4.50

■ Friday January 2 at 2.30pm **THE BOOK OF LIFE 2D (U)** £4.50

■ Sunday January 4 at 3pm The Bolshoi Ballet recorded broadcast of **THE NUTCRACKER** £15.00/£12.50/£10.00/£7.50

■ Monday January 5 at

10.30am **FROZEN SINGALONG (PG)** £4.50

■ Monday January 5 at 7.30pm **2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (U)** £6.00/£5.00/£4.50

■ Friday January 9 at 7.30pm, **MR TURNER (12A)** £6.00/£5.00



The Arts Centre, Haverhill

## Haverhill WEEKLY NEWS

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### James Last & His Orchestra in Concert

At The Royal Albert Hall, London  
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### Elvis at The O2 - The Exhibition of His Life

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## Haverhill WEEKLY NEWS

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**HANDOVER:** From left are Magpas Helimedix Dr Alex Cross; Magpas Helimedix crew member Simon Amos; Steve Penman, dealer principal at Elms BMW; Magpas Helimedix pilot Andy Figg and Magpas Helimedix paramedic Dan Read  
 Picture: David Johnson

## Magpas joy as Elms Cambridge delivers new BMW X1 M Sport

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MAGPAS, the medical charity which has saved hundreds of people involved in serious road accidents, has taken delivery of a new BMW – an X1 XDrive 25d M Sport Automatic, 2.0 Turbo Diesel Engine, worth £41,500 – from Elms Cambridge.

The vehicle is the second to have been made available to Magpas by Camborne-based Elms Cambridge. A 5 Series M Sport Tourer was handed over to the charity in 2011.

"This month marks a fantastic step forward in the phenomenal partnership between Elms Cambridge BMW and Magpas," said Antonia Brickell, head of communications at Magpas. "We are tremendously grateful to Elms Cambridge BMW for their incredible partnership, together with their remarkable commitment and support for Magpas over

the years. These BMWs can make a critical difference when our Magpas Helimedix doctors and paramedics bring specialist care to people at the roadside, in their moment of need, very possibly saving their lives."

Antonia went on to say: "Magpas receives no Government or National Lottery funding and relies wholly on generous donations from the public. Elms Cambridge BMW are truly inspirational; Steve and his team are a perfect example of how effectively businesses can work alongside charities and make a real difference to people's lives."

Commenting on the delivery, Elms' dealer principal Steve Penman said: "They've already had a quick response 530 M Sport Touring, a proper bit of life-saving kit with lots of space.

They had a spare car, a Lexus, which had had a lot of use and they came to us and asked if they could rent a car from us and we said 'You know what, let's help you out' – it's a long-term partnership."

Like many, Steve understands how vital the minutes immediately after a RTA (road traffic accident) can be.

"My wife was in a bad car accident six months ago and it's when the trauma affects you personally that you realise how difficult things can be and how much help they need and those guys are volunteers – the whole model is fantastic and everyone cares passionately for what they're doing."

Elms Cambridge, which was recently sold by the Bedofrdia Group to US-based Group 1

Automotive, has proved an invaluable partner to the Magpas operation.

"There's an affinity there and although it's a marketing cost to me we made a decision that it would be a good thing to do," said Steve. "and we've done all sorts of bits and pieces – I've met the survivors and it's really really the right thing to do."

"It's a brilliant charity, with an amazing wealth of medical knowledge. It would be easy for this partnership to be misconstrued, but the commercial element is very much secondary."

The new X1 will be put into use in "colder, icier weather", enabling Magpas Helimedix teams to continue to bring A&E care, by land as well as by air, to patients with life-changing injuries in Cambridgeshire and the east of England.

To find your motor go to [www.haverhillweeklynews.co.uk/drive](http://www.haverhillweeklynews.co.uk/drive)



## ROAD TEST

# 2015 Audi Q3



## factfile

**Engine:** 2.0-litre diesel producing 148bhp and 251lb/ft

**Transmission:** Six-speed manual driving the front wheels

**Top speed:** 127mph

**0-62mph:** 9.6 seconds

**Fuel economy:** 61.4mpg (17-inch wheels)

**Emissions:** 119g/km (17-inch wheels)



THE new Q3 is rather a lot like the old one, *writes Matt Kimberley*. Has it moved on enough to keep it ahead of the competition?

**WHAT'S NEW?:** To find the new bits on the 2015 Q3, you'll need to look beneath the skin. There are some cosmetic updates, notably the upgraded headlights, but the new engines are where it's at.

The range of power units looks familiar but has had a barrel-full of tweaks, with 2.0-litre TDI diesels leading the charge. There are a couple of petrol options, too, including a clever 1.4-litre new to the Q3, with cylinder deactivation technology to save fuel.

**LOOKS AND IMAGE:** The new grille, which has a thick silver rim that also extends to meet the inside corners of the headlight clusters, is a bit less neat and classy than the old one, but entry-level SE models benefit from xenon headlights and LED daytime running lights instead of the old halogen combination.

Standard full body-colour exterior trim means that the SE is only really marked by its 17-inch wheels. They don't look racy, but they do help provide a surprisingly plush ride. The Q3 has been a popular second family car, and its image is spot-on for parents looking for a small – but tall – premium motor to ferry the kids around with.

**SPACE AND PRACTICALITY:** The cabin actually feels quite compact, despite massive reserves of headroom and enough legroom to fit four adults of around six feet tall – just.

**BEHIND THE WHEEL:** The driving

position is good, but it heavily favours people who want to sit as high as possible, at which point, the front of the roof starts to significantly cut off the upwards visibility at traffic lights.

Although the biggest seller is likely to be the 181bhp diesel, the cheaper 148bhp one is worth a look. It's strong enough for most people, economical and comes with a manual gearbox, for those that prefer them. It's also the cheapest for fuel and road tax, and it's pleasantly refined in terms of noise and vibration.

**VALUE FOR MONEY:** At £25,000+, the Q3 isn't cheap and alternatives include hugely well-equipped diesel Golfs or even Passats, the super-spacious Octavia and Honda Civic estates, and even the impressive electric Kia Soul EV and Mercedes B-Class Electric Drive. It's very solid and has a desirable badge, but there's more space and lower running costs on offer for the same price.

**WHO WOULD BUY ONE?**

Audi reckons that most Q3s will go to families as second cars, where the first is a large premium executive model like an A6 or A7 Sportback. It's an excellent downsized, upscaled premium car that delivers the high driving position in tandem with solidity, class and an options list as long as the Nile.

**THIS CAR IN A WORD:** Uncomplicated

**IF THIS CAR WAS A...:** scoop of ice cream it would probably be some sort of low-volume, high-quality farm-produced vanilla.

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2010/60 BMW 520D SE Auto 4Dr Green 40479 miles	£14,995
2012/12 Nissan Qashqai 1.5 N-Tec 42 red 11500 miles	£14,995
2010/60 Mercedes C250 1.8 Cdi Elegance auto Blue F-CY Silver	£13,995
2011/11 BMW 120D SE Convertible Red 37658 miles	£13,995
2013/63 Nissan Juke 1.6 Tekna White 10597 miles	£12,995
2013/13 VW Beetle 2.0 TDi 140 'Design' Only 16,000 miles, Black	£12,995
2010/59 VW Tiguan 2.0 TDi 170 Sport 4Motion 71404 miles	£12,495
2006/06 Porsche Boxster 2.7 Grey 38372 miles	£12,495
2009/59 Mercedes C180 Estate Sport Blue/CY Auto 1.6 Silver 31085 miles	£11,995
2010/10 VW Passat CC GT TDi Black 58311 miles	£10,995
2012/61 Seat Leon S Coda CR Tdi Ecomot White 19151 miles	£9,995
2011/11 VW Polo 1.6 Tdi SEL Grey 29000 miles	£9,995

2012/12 Seat Leon S Coda CR Tdi Ecomot White 19151 miles	£9,750
2014/14 Kia Picanto 1.25 2 Auto 5Dr Clear White	£8,495
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2010/60 Toyota Ayensis 2.2 4-4d Silver 35450 miles	£8,495
2011/61 Mini One Convertible 1.6 One soft top 1 red 32318 miles	£8,995
2012/12 Fiat 500 Twin Air Plus 875cc Blue 11433 miles	£8,995
2012/12 Seat Ibiza 1.2 Tsi FR 3Dr Blue, 19,992 miles	£8,495
2011/61 Kia Soul 1.6 CRDi 2 Auto Quartz Black	£8,495
2010/10 Mini Cooper 1.6 Pepper pack Black 30881 miles	£7,995
2009/59 Peugeot 207CC 1.6 GT Silver, 32,924 miles	£7,495
2011/61 Kia Picanto 1.25 2 Auto 5Dr Blaze Red	£7,495
2012/62 Kia Picanto 1.25 2 EcoDynamics 5Dr Galaxy Black	£7,495
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2011/61 Kia Picanto 1.25 3 5Dr Galaxy Black	£6,995
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2011/61 Kia Picanto 1.0 1 Air 5Dr Bright Silver	£6,995
2010/10 Fiat 500L 1.2 Lounge 31530 miles	£6,695
2012/12 Kia Picanto 1.25 Equinox Galaxy Black	£6,495
2009/59 Kia Rio 1.4 2 Auto Sapphire Blue 12755 miles	£5,995
2009/59 Vauxhall Astra Estate 1.7 CDTi Life Black 51,000 miles	£5,495
2011/61 Kia Picanto 1.0 1 5Dr Bright Silver	£5,495
2008/58 Kia Ceed 1.6 CRDi LS Auto Silver 37728 miles	£4,995
2009/09 Vauxhall Astra Estate 1.7 CDTi Life Silver 69743 miles	£4,995
2008/58 Vauxhall Astra Estate 1.3 CDTi Life Silver 11487 miles	£4,495
2007/57 Toyota Auris 1.6 TR (one owner FSH) Grey 56664 miles	£4,495
2008/08 Vauxhall Astra Estate 1.3 CDTi Life White 48607 miles	£3,995

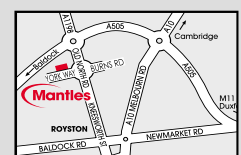
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#### Honda

#### HONDA ACCORD VETEC EX



2.4i, 2004, petrol, MOT May 2015, Service History, all leather, electric sunroof, windows, mirrors etc, cruise control, alloys, air con, sat nav, 73,000 miles, drives superb,

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01353 864484

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#### JAGUAR XJ8 V8 SE AUTO

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07771 924891

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**£950**

07979 654045

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07977 253376

#### Toyota

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Double cab pickup, 2011, 20350mls, 1 owner, bed liner, Mountain top roll n lock, urban pack, sat nav, metallic grey, ball and jaw towbar. Plus VAT

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01223 872595

**TOYOTA** Yaris 1.0 Blue, 2004, 04 Plate, Met. Grey, Only 42,000 miles, F.F.S.H. P.A.S. C/locking, E/windows, Airbags, Radio/C/D Player, Colour Coded Bumpers & Mirrors, Immobiliser, Long M.O.T. Warranty, Excellent Condition, £2850, 01799 584327 / 07779 557267, www.rowleyscars.co.uk t

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07860 291108

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#### VOLKSWAGEN GOLF SE AUTO



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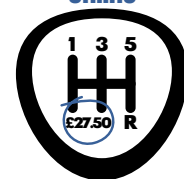
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### Women seeking men

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**JUDITH** attractive curvy sensual black lady seeking kind genuine mature male companion for adult fun, meals in/out and passionate weekends home or away. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415397

**SALLY**, 38yrs large cuddly lady seeks slim men for discreet meetings. Text Only 4550193

**JENNY** 38, petite, blonde busty, looking for my sugar daddy. GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415311

**TRUDY** 36yrs, wilm broadminded men of any age/area for daytime meetings. Text Only 4550194

**DOREEN** 40's attractive blonde, nice figure, solvent, OHAC, no ties, enjoys keeping fit, holidays away, WLTm someone to share all the good things in life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415383

**MELANIE**, 38, slim, blonde and bored. Call if you want no strings fun. Text Only 4550198

**JENNY** 38yr old attractive divorced mum of one, green eyes, blonde, interesting with varied interests, WLTm genuine kind male for hopeful romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415189

**JENNI**, 52 bored housewife wants no strings fun with younger chap. Text Only 4550197

**SOPHIE** 29yr old large black lady with very large butt looking for professional or retired naughty friend with GSOH, discreet disposition and generous nature. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415171

**CAROLINE** 24yr old blonde slim beautiful, active, fun European female looking for kind, cuddly loving man for romantic companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415565

**SOPHIA** young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399

**SHELIA** attractive natural blonde curvy female looking for nice guy to share good times with and to make my life complete. Call/text me. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415541

**LUCY**, 32yrs, blonde lady seeks naughty boys of any age for no strings fun. Tel No: 0905 002 1887 Box No: 413443

**KATHY** 35yr old outgoing female looking for casual dates with fun guy who has no hang ups or complications. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415517

**ADVENTUROUS** sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301

**LEANNE** black open-minded female looking for white male for adult fun times, discretion assured/required. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415511

**LUCY**, broadminded 18yrs seeks discreet fun with men any age. Aca. Tel No: 0905 002 1941 Box No: 365051

**SAM** 32yrs petite pretty seeking genuine good hearted male for loving relationship. If you're out there please call and restore my faith in dating. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415413

**SEXY** brunette, mid 20's busty, adventurous broad minded seeks no strings fun. Tel No: 0905 002 1949 Box No: 361739

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**CHARLIE** 22yr old young female looking for older male for fun times only, no complications or questions asked. Reliability and respect expected and assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414947

**BEA** petite 40's female, attractive, nice natured, social, many likes and interests, seeking independent male to share new interests, hobbies and lots of adult time. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414943

**PLAIN** Jane 38yrs true country lass looking for fun frolics down on the farm with real non pretentious happy man, there must be one out there for me! Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414693

**SANDY** part time nurse, loves holidays, dancing, walking, nights in/out, seeks mature male to enjoy weekend activities and adult romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414971

**JEN** first time advertiser and a little shy, single mum looking for nice guy for chats, to go out and generally just enjoy life with, N/S preferred. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414965

**ABJ** single fun outgoing young 27yrs, tall, slim, OHAC, employed looking for similar male for good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414369

**ATTRACTION** Princess, 50, likes music, good things in life, seeking Prince charming with GSOH, honest and generous to bring happiness and love. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414791

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**PRETTY** 34yr old paramedic, long dark hair, nice eyed, feminine, size 12, caring, looking for fun times in or out with nice guy, maybe leading to more. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414715

**ANN** pretty blonde, young looking, slim, no ties, seeking male 40-50's to go out with, enjoy adult conversation, maybe leading to something more. Pls call me. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414503

**CLARE** 26, fun, honest, loving and loyal, employed, no ties, OHAC, seeks genuine man 25-50yrs to get to know, spend quality times, dates in/out and great conversation. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414393

**WIDOW** 78, N/S, house owner, seeks genuine gent of similar age for companionship, Ipswich area. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414743

**TALL** lovely lady 50's, long hair, likes pina colada and getting caught in the rain, seeks genuine, loyal, homey man with GSOH and fit in height. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414575

**LYNDA** 19yr old naughty by nature female green eyes, dark hair looking for fun times with mature male who thinks he can handle a real live wire. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414719

**JEAN** 46, petite, well mannered, employed, OHAC, enjoys meals out, nice wine, golf, gardening, holidays, seeks 60's kind man with GSOH. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414221

**PAM** 42, attractive, employed, slim, fit, interesting brunette, OHAC, seeking similar sporty, fun N/S male for weekends away, meals out and lots of laughs. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414197

**MICHELLE** 25yr old single mum to one WLTm male for companionship, nights in/out, hopefully leading to more. Age/looks unimportant, single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414187

**FIONA** 32yr old female looking for professional sincere honest guy to enjoy the company of and see where it takes us. Age unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413001

**SARAH** 20yr old attractive blonde, medium height, size 10, busty, tanned, fun, looking for male, any age, for text chats, meets and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414483

**SHY** 38yr old pretty slim female looking for sensitive male who is looking for some adult fun. Any age/looks race or status. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414371

**NINA** 35yrs pretty brunette, slim, medium height, nice smile, good manners, loves girly things, cooking, shopping, dancing, meals in/out, WLTm affectionate passionate guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414233

**JULIE** attractive loving female who gives much more than she takes, big eyes, curvy and very feminine, great cook, WLTm 50's plus loving male. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412391

**NICKY** 38yr old shy sensitive feminine female seeking caring sensitive male to enjoy adult fun times. Any age/looks or status. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412381

**KATHY** 37, gorgeous mixed race single female, 5ft 8ins, slim, sensual, just looking for kind, trustworthy guy any age, looks or race. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413395

**SOPHIE** wanting to fall in love, attractive 34yr old single female looking for real romantic male who is not afraid to fall in love. Aca. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412375

**BERNIE** blue eyed blonde employed female who's interests include eating out, cinema, reading, socialising, seeks manly male for friendship, hopefully LTR. Aca. Tel No: 0907 308 0272 Box No: 411701

**DEBS** single fun loving attractive slim female who likes to keep fit, enjoys sport, restaurants, shopping, WLTm similar male for potential dates and romancing. Tel No: 0907 308 0272 Box No: 411533

**WHERE** have all the good single men gone? enjoy cinema, nights out, wining/dining, seeking special male for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 411391

**JEAN** country loving female petite 5ft 4ins, feminine, sensual, tactile, looking for genuine companion with similar interests and passionate nature. 0906 500 3772 Box No: 411047

**PROFESSIONAL** lady, widow, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meals out, nights in, seeking honest, genuine, kind male, N/S, 69-74 for friendship, maybe more. Suffolk. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413175

**SUE** 38yrs enjoys most things, meals in/out, easygoing, broadminded, passionate, slightly feisty, looking for adult fun, call me if you're interested in spicing things up. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413007

**SARAH** petite very attractive 19yr old female seeking older mature guy chat with and take it from there. Give me a call, I promise you won't be disappointed. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412905

**BEV** green eyed outgoing female with a good personality, loves travel, weekends away looking for genuine man to share some good times with and heat things up a bit. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412587

**SANDY** fun bubbly very attractive outgoing female who loves to have fun and be spoilt looking for a good looking toy boy for adult fun times and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412585

**LAUREN** 38yrs pretty petite slim blonde, big eyes/female, likes animals, walking, theatre, quiet nights in with a red, WLTm male 35-42 with GSOH for nice times together. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412353

### Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras.

**FIT** 39yr old Ipswich male, seeks special female for mistletoe kisses and lasting relationship, OHAC. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415615

**JOHN**, 42yrs professional genuine gent seeks caring lady to treat as a princess. Text Only 4550195

**IDEAL** Xmas present. Genuine male, young 56, OHAC, kind, caring, considerate, loyal, GSOH, seeking similar female for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415631

**JAMES**, hard working single dad, late 30's seeks single mum for family days out. Text Only 4550196

**FUN** loving easy going guy, good looking, 5ft 10ins, stocky, seeks female. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415581

**GARY** 55, looking for female, 45-55, likes nights out, romantic dinners etc. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415557

**GOOD** catch looking to get caught, easy going professional guy 46, OHAC, seeking lovely lady for relationship, Ipswich area. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415589

**GENUINE** attractive and honest single 32 yr old male looking for fun and friendship. All replies answered. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4504483

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**CEMENT** to be! Builder seeking concrete relationship with fun loving female. Children/pets welcome, any age/race. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415215

**JAMIE** 50, OHAC, widowed, seeking female to socialise with, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415197

**MALE** likes rock/pop/indie, tall, slim, young 50 something, GSOH, honest, caring, romantic, non materialistic, seeks genuine lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415059

**59YR** old male, silver hair, reasonable build, seeks slim lady, 50ish. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414989

**KIND** male, 49, likes cinema, meals out, concerts, travel, seeks loving lady, 38-52 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414913

**GEOFF** looking for female companion, 40-60 to go sailing on my catamaran in the Mediterranean. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414857

**YOUTHFUL** fit, attractive guy, 50, humorous, romantic, passionate, likes red wine, walks, meals out, cinema, seeking sexy, like minded female for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413259

**ATTRACTIVE** tall fit guy, 50, dark hair, fun, romantic, passionate, seeks sexy lady for fun dates, laughter and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415387

**HUNKY** builder, 50, adventurous but kind, seeks female for fun, friendship and LTR. Black/white/Asian. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415357

**SILVER** haired 59yr old male, 5ft 9ins, good looking, solvent, seeks slim lady, 50-60 to see how it goes, hopefully LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415329

**TALL** slim, young 50 something male, longish hair, GSOH, likes rock/indie music, seeks lady for friendship, hopefully relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415257

**MALE** mid 60's, 5ft 5ins, medium build, N/S, GSOH, likes most things, country walks, meals out, theatre, cinema, seeks female up to 68. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415337

**PROFESSIONAL** male, N/S, own home/business, solvent, smart, attractive, romantic, loving personality, GSOH, seeking LTR with genuine female. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415353

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**DEAN** 5ft 10ins, average build, nice, gentle, genuine, loving, funny, outgoing, likes nights in/out, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414277

**GENUINE** 70yr old gent, caring, honest, likes DIY, gardening, meals out, travel, home life, seeks lady with similar interests for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414129

**FIT** trendy caring 39yr old Ipswich male, OHAC, looking for love, seeks female for lasting relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413943

**MALE** 49, young looking, seeking female, 25-50. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413759

**BILL** 74, caring, loving, honest, affectionate, likes DIY, gardening, cinema, countryside, seaside, seeks female of similar age for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413473

**IPSWICH** male, early 70's, loving, caring, likes trips/meals out, nights in, seeks attractive loving lady, 60-70 for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413381

**MALE** 50's, ok looking, seeking female for no strings adventurous fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413431

**GENUINE** male, young 56, OHAC, kind, caring, loyal, considerate, country loving, seeks attractive female with GSOH for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 413091

**MIKE** 59, outgoing, likes walks, seeks female of similar age and GSOH for company. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 412879

**RETIRED** male, warm, loving, 5ft 7ins, solvent, likes days out, holidays, socialising, seeking female for fun and company. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414829

**JOHN** 36, easy going, GSOH, 6ft 3ins, likes comedy, music, seeking nice lady for fun and laughter. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414829

**NICE** looking guy 50, dark hair, hazel eyes, GSOH, likes walks, meals out, seeks attractive lady for wining/dining and romancing. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414823

**DEAN** 5ft 10ins, medium build, nice, gentle, genuine, loving, funny, outgoing, energetic, likes nights in/out, seeks similar female. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414277

**DAN** 50, nice looking, athletic, good company, seeks slim, attractive, broadminded, adventurous female for discreet exciting meetings. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414671

**JAMIE** 50, OHAC, widowed, works some nights, seeking female for uncomplicated friendship and nights out. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414611

**MID** 50's Ipswich male, seeks smart, older lady for daytime adult fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414455

**CARING** male, 41, looking for fun and laughter, seeking female, 30-48 for loving lasting relationship with GSOH and more. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414357

**NICE** working guy 50, tall, athletic, dark hair, fun, romantic, caring, seeking attractive lady for friendship and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 414349

### Men seeking men

**SINGLE** male, likes mopeds, seeks elderly gent for rides in the countryside. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415223

**FIT** 55yr old male, seeks CDTV for fun and games. Suffolk. Tel No: 0906 500 3772 Box No: 415607

**MALE** 60 seeks cd male for fun times. Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4311477

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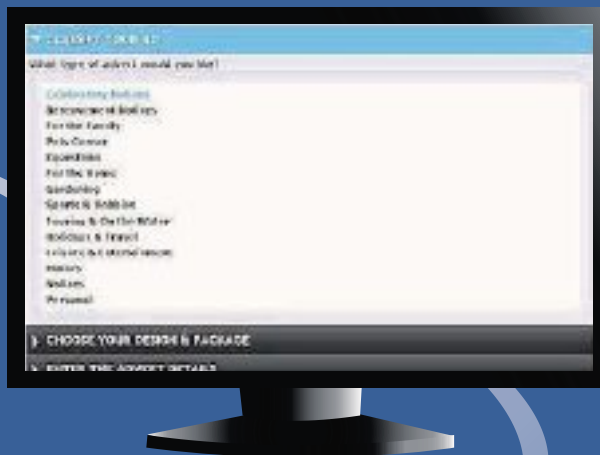


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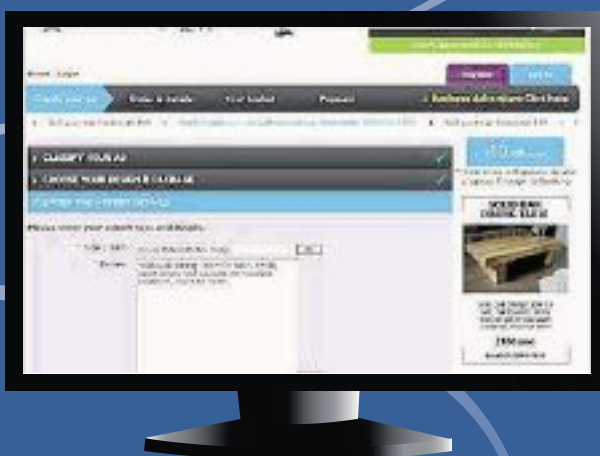
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Haverhill  
**WEEKLY NEWS**

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**WEEKLY NEWS**

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Magna  
Carta  
800th  
anniversary

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days from  
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- One night's stay with three course evening meal & cooked breakfast
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> **Football:** Thurlow Nunn League

## A late own goal earns a stalemate

**AN INJURY-TIME** own goal by Ben Lawrence ended Saffron Walden's nine-game winning streak in the Thurlow Nunn League, First Division and ensured Haverhill Borough gained a 1-1 draw from their Boxing Day clash.

Walden dominated the first half, with Greg Strong having a shot deflected just wide of the upright after only 10 minutes.

Borough's Lee Hurkett was then forced to produce a fine last-ditch tackle to prevent Walden's Craig Calver from being through on goal before the hosts finally launched an attack, although Martin Westcott's effort barely troubled visiting keeper Floyd Crull.

Walden always looked dangerous from set pieces, and their goal reflected this.

A ball in from the right was headed on by Graeme Turner for Chris Reid, who headed the ball past Charlie Turner to give the visitors a half-time advantage.

Walden were almost gifted a goal early in the second half when Charlie Turner's kick hit Calver before rolling straight back into the goalkeeper's grateful arms.

Borough skipper Ross Elkins then volleyed over at a corner before Gavin Taylor's shot from the edge of the penalty area was deflected wide of Crull's left hand upright.

After 63 minutes, from a further set piece, Calver shot over following a back header from Graeme Turner, before Ash Drew hacked the ball away with Walden on the break and Calver almost through on goal.

Spike Bell almost added to the Walden total, forcing Charlie Turner to a fine save down to his left, before Hurkett almost twice equalised for Borough from free kicks.

His first flew a foot wide of the left-hand post before his second, two minutes later, passed through the wall and straight into Crull's hands.

But in the 94th minute, Borough launched a final attack.

With the ball chipped over the Walden backline, Ryan Weaver scuffed a shot which Lawrence attempted to clear, but the ball deflected off his arm and rolled past the wrong-footed Crull to give the hosts an equaliser.

Borough are back in action at Braintree reserves this Saturday.

Meanwhile, Dalton O'Brien's goal could not prevent **Haverhill Rovers** losing 2-1 at Walsham Le Willows in the Premier Division.

Rovers will look to bounce back from their Boxing Day defeat when they play host to Ipswich Wanderers this Saturday.

My ball: Haverhill Borough's Martin Westcott (right) holds off a Saffron Walden opponent.  
Pictures: Gary Brown



**Committed:** Haverhill Borough's Lee Hurkett (near right) makes a last-ditch tackle while Charlie Turner (far right) makes a vital save.



Haverhill Weekly News



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